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**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
SECTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS**

POST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN STB DOCKET NO. AB-976 (Sub-No. 2X)

July 20, 2007

ABANDONMENT TYPE

The time for comments on the Environmental Assessment (EA) has expired in this:

(X) Notice of Exemption () Petition for Exemption () Regulated Abandonment

() **NO NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED**

(X) **NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED**

SEA served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on July 3, 2007 for public review and comment. In the EA, SEA recommended two environmental conditions and concluded that the proposed action would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment.

Comments on the EA

SEA received one comment from Pittsburg & Shawmut Railroad, LLC (PSR). Through consultation with National Geodetic Survey (NGS) after the EA was issued, PSR has confirmed that because of where NGS markers are located, it is unlikely that any markers would be disturbed by PSR's planned tie and rail removal project within the existing rail bed. Bridges and other structures will not be removed because of public use and trail use conditions. NGS has indicated that PSR may proceed with its salvage activities as long as PSR does not disturb any markers. Accordingly, condition number 2 recommended in SEA's EA should be modified to read as follows:

Pittsburg and Shawmut Railroad, LLC shall notify National Geodetic Survey (NGS) at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities that will disturb or destroy any geodetic station markers.

Conclusions

The EA comment period has ended. Accordingly, SEA recommends that the conditions recommended in the EA, as modified by the recommendations in this document should be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority. The conditions are:

1. Pittsburgh and Shawmut Railroad, LLC shall consult with the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission (FBC) prior to commencement of any salvage activities to address FBC's concerns about erosion and sedimentation and to avoid and minimize impacts to FBC's Summerville property.

2. Pittsburg and Shawmut Railroad, LLC shall notify National Geodetic Survey (NGS) at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities that will disturb or destroy any geodetic station markers.

If the above conditions are imposed, SEA believes that the proposed action will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

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July 18, 2007
VIA: Electronic filing

Hon. Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423

Re: Pittsburg & Shawmut Railroad, LLC -
Abandonment Exemption - Clarion and Jefferson Counties, PA
STB Docket No. AB-976 (Sub No. 2X)

Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad, Inc. -
Discontinuance Exemption - Clarion and Jefferson Counties, PA
STB Docket No. AB-369 (Sub No. 6X)

**Comments to Environmental Assessment, Public Use and Trail Use
Requests**

Dear Secretary Williams:

This letter serves as the comments of the applicant Pittsburg & Shawmut Railroad, LLC ("PSR LLC") to the Environmental Assessment ("EA") served by the Board on July 3, 2007. This letter also responds to request for trail use and public use that has been filed.

Environmental Assessment. The EA recommends a condition that PSR LLC notify National Geodetic Survey (NGS) at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage. PSR LLC believes that this condition goes beyond what NGS requested and what should be required. Through discussions with NGS after the EA was issued, PSR LLC has confirmed that because of where NGS locates its markers, it is unlikely that any markers would be disturbed by PSR LLC's planned tie and rail removal project within the existing rail bed (bridges and other structures will not be removed because of the public use and trail use conditions discussed below). PSR LLC has confirmed with NGS that it can proceed with its salvage project so long as PSR LLC does not disturb any markers. Imposition of a 90-day advance notice requirement would mean that PSR LLC would not be able to commence salvage until at late October or November, precluding its planned salvage for this year. Accordingly, PSR LLC requests that any condition require notice to NGS only if NGS markers will be disturbed.

GOLLATZ, GRIFFIN & EWING, P.C.

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Public Use and Trail Use Request. Allegheny Valley Land Trust ("AVLT") filed a request for public use and trail use with the Board on June 11, 2007. AVLT request included the required Statement of Willingness to Assume Financial Responsibility. PSR LLC hereby indicates its willingness to negotiate with AVLT for possible rail banking and trail use, if the Board issues a NITU, and provided that PSR LLC is permitted to salvage the tracks, ties, signals and other track materials.

Respectfully,


Eric M. Hocky

cc: All parties on the attached Service List

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Brookville, PA 15825

Commissioner Chair
Clarion County Courthouse
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Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission
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Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission
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Pleasant Gap, PA 16823

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
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Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
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